magnificat

(cantique de la vierge)

HENRY DUMONT

For SOLO VOICES, MIXED CHORUS AND ORCHESTRA (Vocal Score)

Edited By WILLIAM B. WELLS



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\$3.50 M-130

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MAGNIFICAT

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for five soloists (S, A, T, B1, B2), five-part chorus (S, A, T, B1, B2), five-part string orchestra (Vln. 1, 2, 3, Viola, Cello, Bass) and organ continuo

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About the composer and music

By a strange quirk of history, Henry DuMont (1610-1684) remains hidden in the shadow of his more famous colleague, Jean-Baptists Lully. Neither were native Franchmen, but both held important positions in the court of Louis XIV. Lully was responsible for secular entertainment (ballet, opera) while DuMont composed and organized music for the King's chapel.

The Magnificat originally appeared as one of twenty motets in the collection, Motets Pour La Chapelle Du Roy, published posthumously in 1686.

The music appears in sixteen printed partbooks, currently housed in the Bibliothèque Nationale, Paris, France. This edition was prepared from a microfilm of the original partbooks.

Editorial practice

- (1) Any editorial changes or corrections of the original printed partbooks are so indicated in the score by brackets or footnotes.
- (2) Certain rhythmic alterations conforming to 17th century French performance practices have been suggested by the editor. These are indicated either above or below the notes in question.
 - (3) Most tempo and dynamic indications are editorial.

Performance suggestions

- (1) The Magnificat can successfully be performed in either its original version with string orchestra and organ continuo or in its transcribed organ version.
- (2) The solo tenor part has a particularly high tessitura. If no tenor is available who can easily negotiate the part, it may be best to divide the part between an alto and tenor. In several places where the tenor is alone or in duet, the passages may be transposed up an octave and given to a soprano and mezzo-soprano.

See p. 11, "Quia resplexit" (Duet) p. 20, "Et misericordia" (Duet) p. 38 "Suscepit Israel" (Solo)

(3) The opening Magnificat chant might best be taken by the choral basses.

W.B. Wells

Full score and orchestral parts available on rental from the publisher.

MAGNIFICAT

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